

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY  
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

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**FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

**LS 6701**

**BILL NUMBER:** HB 1395

**NOTE PREPARED:** Dec 14, 2006

**BILL AMENDED:**

**SUBJECT:** Prohibition On Wearing Uniform In Campaign.

**FIRST AUTHOR:** Rep. Ruppel

**BILL STATUS:** As Introduced

**FIRST SPONSOR:**

**FUNDS AFFECTED:**  GENERAL  
 DEDICATED  
 FEDERAL

**IMPACT:** State & Local

**Summary of Legislation:** This bill amends the law against soliciting votes or campaign funds while wearing a uniform to eliminate the exception under which a state police department employee, a police officer, or a firefighter can consent to a photograph that appears in an advertisement in support of a candidate or political party and that shows the state police department employee, police officer, or firefighter in uniform.

**Effective Date:** July 1, 2007.

**Explanation of State Expenditures:**

**Explanation of State Revenues:** *Summary-* Under current law, persons, with few exceptions, soliciting votes or campaign funds while in uniform commit a Class A misdemeanor. Under the bill, the misdemeanor violation would be expanded by removing the exception for candidate endorsement by individuals while photographed in uniform.

*Penalty Provision:* If additional court cases occur and fines are collected, revenue to both the Common School Fund (from fines) and the state General Fund (from court fees) would increase. The maximum fine for a Class A misdemeanor is \$5,000. However, any additional revenue would likely be small.

**Explanation of Local Expenditures:** *Penalty Provision:* A Class A misdemeanor is punishable by up to one year in jail.

**Explanation of Local Revenues:** *Penalty Provision:* If additional court actions occur and a guilty verdict is entered, local governments would receive revenue from court fees. However, any change in revenue would

likely be small.

**State Agencies Affected:**

**Local Agencies Affected:** Trial courts, local law enforcement agencies.

**Information Sources:**

**Fiscal Analyst:** Chris Baker, 317-232-9851.